The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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Whoever commits a crime strengthens his enemy.—Daniel O'Connell.

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WHY PRIVILEGE SNEERS AT COURAGEOUS LAWMAKERS

Senate investigations is why privilege overlooks no opportunity to sneeringly refer to the law-making branch of government.

If a citizen respectfully challenges the justice of a court decision his patriotism is questioned by those who encourage every penny-a-liner and professional jester who would cause a cheap laugh at the expense of Congress.

The reason for this policy is the oil probe, the mine strike investigation, labor injunction hearings, blocking the Muscle Shoals grab, exposure of corrupt election practices, protests against the Nicaraguan policy and a general desire to shed light on other questions that were formerly kept in the dark.

The oil probe is a monument to the high motives of probing Senators. They have uncovered graft in high places and have revived faith in popular rule.

These Senators risked their political lives. They were villified by privilege and its agents in high places, who have been silenced by the shocking expose.

But for the Senate's coal strike probe, the public would not know of policies that industrial autocrats enforce.

This investigation reveals coal owners without program or plan—except to smash the Mine Workers' Union.

"We have nothing to discuss," W. G. Warden of the contract-breaking Pittsburgh Coal Company, told the Senate committee.

Captains of industry like Schwab, Rockefeller, Jr., and R. B. Mellon, brother of the Secretary of the Treasury, confessed they are ignorant of the coal industry.

They are typical absentee landlords. They employ agents who enforce a policy similar to rent-racking that was the rule in Ireland in by-gone days.

The Senate labor-injunction hearings have brought the same results. Courts have established government by discretion and overthrown government by law.

Employers' attorneys oppose any change, and insist that Congress is powerless to remedy these wrongs.

It is plain why privilege would weaken popular respect for Congress; why they rage; why they whisper: "This country needs a strong-man government," that would dispense with the law-making branch, as has Mussolini, for instance.

At no time in the Senate's history were there a larger number of unmuzzled men in that body. They freely express their views. They are beyond the control of privilege that works through strongly-disciplined political parties.

The development of non-partisanship has smashed party lines and the caucus whip no longer terrifies.

No citizen who has a regard for our governmental institutions should aid privilege in bringing our law-making branch into contempt.

Citizens should not forget that the only law-makers favored by privilege are those who are subservient, who can be depended upon to conceal injustice and wrong.

A law-maker who owns himself is a marked man.

Every support should be given courageous law-makers who are attacking a greed that hitherto believed it was immune.

Welch Federal Wage Increase Bill Secretly Opposed By 'Fact Seekers'

Washington, April 7.—The Welch bill, which calls for a $300 wage increase to federal employes, is in danger of being scuttled by secret foes.

No social proposal ever created such interest in the Nation's capital. Half a hundred Congressmen urged the committee to favor the measure, and more than 200 Congressmen declared they will vote favorable when the bill comes before the House. Leading business organizations in this city have indorsed the bill.

Penny-pinching economy pleaders dare not openly oppose the increase, but they may confuse the issue by discussing wild claims on its cost. A fact-finding study would suit these secret foes, as the bill would have to be held up. This information should be instantly available for Congress, but no where in the government's vast machinery can these facts be found.

The National Federation of Federal Employes, backers of the bill, estimate that the increase will total $35,000,000, but Herbert D. Brown, chief of the Bureau of Efficiency, places the figures at $68,000,000. The trade unionists challenge this estimate and they ask Brown how he has reached this conclusion. Federation officials have been unsuccessful in obtaining information as to the number and grade of field employes from either the Federal budget or from Brown's bureau.

Hearings by the House Committee reveal tragic conditions of low-wage Federal employes. Witnesses shocked even those smug individuals who accept stories of "prosperity" and the easy life of government employes.

One Treasury Department employe challenged the claim that Secretary of the Treasury Mellon is a wonder worker in the realm of finance. "I have not bought a new suit of clothes in 14 years," the witness said.

"Our nation-wide campaign and the hearings have brought more letters of approval than any other legislation we ever heard of," said Miss Gertrude McNally, secretary of the Federation of Federal Employes. "Practically all want the bill introduced by Congressman Welch of California to be enacted without revision. This legislation is conservative and if any change is made it should be upward."

COAL OWNERS' BOOKS REFUSED TO SENATE

Washington, April 7.—West Virginia coal owners refuse to show their books to the Senate committee that is investigating the coal strike.

These coal owners claim it is impossible to pay union rates. They demand injunctions that set aside rights of workers, but when asked to prove their claims, they talk of "individual rights."

TURMOIL IN COAL INDUSTRY TRACED TO LOGAN COUNTY

Washington, April 7.—"From out of Logan County, West Virginia, has grown this tremendous struggle," said Percy Tetlow, president West Virginia district of United Mine Workers, testifying before the Senate coal strike probe committee.

"Logan county is the focal point of the coal problem," he said. "Coal owners in other states sought to lower wages on the ground that they can not compete with Logan county's cheap mined output of 15,000,000 tons annually.

"Logan county has always been non-union," said Mr. Tetlow. "Guards and deputy sheriffs, paid by the coal companies, make it unsafe for any man to go in who represents organized labor. The county has but one incorporated town. These communities can not incorporate because the coal owners control all property and real estate."

"There is no reason," continued Mr. Tetlow, "why the people should be prevented from enjoying self-government." Abuse of police power there has been evident "to a degree possibly greater than in any other state of the Union," he said. This is largely due, he added, to the employers' opposition to trade unionism.

The witness denied that employes of the Consolidation Coal Company of West Virginia, a Rockefeller concern, petitioned that the Jacksonville agreement be ignored.

"The petitions speak the facts," said Mr. Tetlow. "The company employed mine guards, evicted the men and their families and resumed operations. The men were compelled by force of circumstances to accept the lower wage. It was not optional."

NO SAFE PLACE IN FUTURE WAR

Middletown, Conn., April 7.—The next war will be as dangerous to old age, women and children, as to those who are in the front line trenches, said former Secretary of War Newton D. Baker at the Wesleyan University intercollegiate conference on war.

Foes will strike at the morale of those behind the lines, will bombard cities, dropping poison gas, bombs and explosives, said Mr. Baker.

The struggle of nations for resources of the world will be the greatest cause for future wars, the speaker said.

Natural resources, which provide necessaries of life, are constantly sought and nations will be prepared to fight for adjustment of questions over nationalities and traditions which are widespread in Europe and other problems most difficult of solution because of their fundamental hold on the national mind.

The speaker said America's intervention in Nicaragua can be justified "if we can free ourselves of the suspicion that we are protecting the interests of mahogany and oil."

Modern war conditions are made by five or six nations, Mr. Baker declared, naming England, France, Italy, Germany, Japan and the United States. "Other nations can only create riots," he said.

LIBERAL "BLACKLIST" BY PATRIOTIC ORDER

Boston, April 7.—The Daughters of the American Revolution has a blacklist of prominent persons and organizations is charged by Mrs. Helen Tufts Bailie, a leading member of the D. A. R.

Persons debarred from speaking before the D. A. R., because of their liberal tendencies, include President Mary E. Woolley of Mount Holyoke College, Dean Roscoe Pound of Harvard Law School, Federal Judge Anderson of this city, Rabbi Stephen S. Wise and the Rev. E. Tallmadge Root, executive secretary of the Massachusetts Federation of Churches.

Mrs. Bailie said that persons publicly associated with the Y. M. C. A., the Y. W. M. C., the National Catholic Welfare Association, the National Child Labor Committee, numerous college students' liberal clubs and many other organizations are not permitted to speak before the D. A. R. on the ground that these organizations are of "radical, socialistic or communistic sympathies."

LABOR BANK PROSPERS

New York, April 7.—The Federation Bank and Trust Company reports resources of over $20,000,000. The bank started business in May, 1923, with a capital and surplus account of $500,000.

"Over 40 international trade unions and over 150 local unions are stockholders in this institution, making it the largest and most representative labor bank on this continent," said Peter J. Brady, president of the company.

PAINT SPRAYS HARMFUL

Petaluma, Calif., April 7.—Regulation of paint sprays was urged by Frank C. MacDonald, president State Building Trades Council, at the annual convention in this city. The unionist reported that the California Industrial Accident Commission will consider this question in the near future.

Rules are necessary to protect the lives and the health of men who operate these machines, said Mr. MacDonald.

HIGH-PRICED LAWYERS OBJECT TO LIFE SAVER

Washington, April 7.—Half a hundred high-priced railroad attorneys and mail traffic managers are massed in opposition to a bill that would require steel cars in the railway mail service. The bill is favored by the Railway Mail Association, affiliated to the A. F. of L.

The attorneys and an army of retainers assure the Senate committee that the plan is "too expensive." H. E. Mack, representing the Missouri Pacific Railroad, said:

"Fast trains, operated on the main lines, use all-steel cars, and the cars required to be replaced by the bill are operated on short lines at a low rate of speed and consequently under different safety demands."

"An accident to a mail car traveling 30 miles an hour may prove just as disastrous to mail clerks, as when they travel 60 miles," said Henry W. Strickland, industrial secretary of the Railway Mail Association. "Our records show," continued Mr. Strickland, "that injuries are more frequent in these slower trains, because of the wooden cars. They buckle and collapse, even though they are traveling at a low rate of speed. The railroads have made every effort to evade the law. In many cases these shells are trussed up by placing two lengths of railroad track under them; but fatalities and accidents continue."

OPPOSE BOULDER DAM

Washington, April 7.—Senator Ashurst of Arizona has notified the Senate he will block any attempt to have enacted the Boulder Dam bill, which has been reported favorably by the Senate Committee on Irrigation and Reclamation.

Senator Ashurst took the same position in the last Congress. This legislation would authorize government construction of a dam across the Colorado River at Boulder. Arizona representatives in Congress insist that the bill does not protect the interests of their State.

ZIEGLER DECLINES

Washington, April 7.—Phil E. Ziegler, editor of the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks' Journal, has forwarded this telegram to A. F. of L. headquarters:

"Press dispatches state I was elected member executive committee at conference held Chicago, March 26, to form Labor Party. I gave no authority to use my name and decline office."

AUTO WORKERS WIN; ARE NOW IN A. F. OF L.

Oshawa, Ontario, April 7.—Unorganized striking employes of the General Motors Corporation won their fight against wage reductions and have returned to work as members of a federal trade union, chartered by the American Federation of Labor.

Several thousand workers were involved. Their wages were reduced by efficiency experts. When the trimming department was reached by these experts, the trimmers walked out and were quickly joined by other departments and the plant was closed.

Communists and an organization dual to the legitimate trade union movement failed to interest the workers.

The strike was marked by several features. Discipline was perfect and Federal Minister of Labor Peter Heenan secured permission for them to use the government armories as meeting halls. The provincial government complied with the strikers' request to close the liquor stores and constables were appointed by the strikers to maintain order in the community.

PRISON PROFITEERS DEFEND THEIR GRAFT

Washington, April 7.—Opponents of the Hawes-Cooper convict labor bill are using parliamentary tactics to defeat this measure. The bill has been favorably reported in the House by the Committee on Labor. It is designed to divest convict-made goods of their interstate character and permit states that have legislation governing the sale of convict-made goods to apply these laws to convict-made goods from other states.

Opponents of the bill, lead by prison contractors, agree that their markets will be ruined if they are compelled to label goods "convict made."

The question is one of states' rights, according to Congressman Cooper, author of the House bill. It is unfair, he said, that states should regulate the sale of goods in their own institutions while denied the same regulation of commodities made in prisons in other states. The A. F. of L. is supporting the bill.

COAL WEIGHING LAW IN COLORADO LEGAL

Denver, April 7.—The Colorado checkweighman law, intended to stop coal owners from robbing miners, has been upheld by the local Federal district court.

The Victor American Fuel Company denied miners the right to elect their checkweighmen and claimed that enforcement of the act would deprive them of property without due process of law and would interfere with the right of unrestricted contract.

The company was denied an injunction against state mining officials, and will appeal to the United States Supreme Court.

STATE UNIONS TO MEET

Springfield, Mo., April 7.—The annual convention of the Missouri Federation of Labor will convene in this city on Monday, May 28.

Flexible Tariff Scheme Collapses; "Scientific" Law Faces Court Test

Washington, April 7.—Opponents of the flexible clause of the Fordney-McCumber tariff act may ask the United States Supreme Court to pass on the constitutionality of this legislation.

The clause was declared to be the final word in "scientific" law making and that it removed the tariff question from politics.

The scheme was so simple people marveled that it was never thought of before. When a citizen protested that the tariff on any commodity was too high or too law, the tariff commission would figure the cost of production abroad and the cost of production in this country. The difference would be the tariff. The commission ran up against its first stone wall when foreign manufacturers refused to reveal their costs. Citizens in this country charged that the commission is "packed" with high tariff advocates and that Congress can not delegate its revenue-raising authority.

The Tariff Commission has been in the public eye for several years. David J. Lewis, former member of the congressional labor group, claims he was not reappointed on the commission because he refused to hand his undated resignation to the president. Henry H. Glassie, a member of the commission, insisted on voting on a proposed change in the sugar tariff after it was shown that his family was connected with Southern sugar mills. His vote was necessary to overcome the opposition of the three Progressive members—William S. Culbertson, Edward P. Costigan and David J. Lewis. It was not until the matter was taken before Congress that Glassie was barred.

Culbertson has been appointed ambassador to a small European country; Costigan recently resigned in the hope that the president would have to make an appointment that would be passed upon by the Senate before it adjourned, and Lewis is out because of his refusal to sign a document that would permit the president to oust him at his pleasure.

MODERN UNION SMASHING

Testifying before the Senate coal strike committee, the attorney for the Consolidation Coal Company revealed how intrigue and stealth have replaced crude union-smashing methods.

This Rockefeller concern, located in West Virginia, signed the union agreement and later suspended operations.

When the miners were idle several weeks they were evicted from company houses. "Company men" circulated petitions among unemployed workers for the management to resume operations at a lower wage scale.

The company announced it would comply with the "request."

Officers of the United Mine Workers charge that the plot was hatched in the company's office; that mine guards were employed; that the men were starved into submission, and that the petition is now used as an alibi.

The Interborough Rapid Transit Company of New York is using the same crafty method in opposing the Amalgamated Street Car Men's Union by operating through a company "union" that the management organized and controls.

This "union" refuses to work with bona fide trade unionists, and the Interborough affects a disinterested position while it discharges Amalgamated men on demand of its creature.

Shipstead Dissects Out-of-Work Report; 1,874,000 Excludes Idle Prior to 1925

Washington, April 7.—Basing his estimate on Secretary of Davis's report that there were 1,874,000 unemployed in January, 1928, Senator Shipstead said that "this computation leads to the belief that there are in the neighborhood of about 8,000,000 persons unemployed in the United States at the present time."

The Senator called attention to the statement in the report that the 1,874,000 estimate is "figured on the basis of those employed in 1925."

"In the next paragraph," the Senator continued, "the Secretary of Labor states: 'In making 1925 the base of 100, it is understood that whatever there may have been of unemployment in that year is ignored.'

"In order to arrive at a full estimate of unemployment," said Senator Shipstead, "we have got to go back to the peak of employment when approximately all wage earners were presumed to hold jobs, and that, according to the Secretary of Commerce and the Statistician of the Department of Labor, was in the first half of 1920."

JURY TRIALS ORDERED IN FEDERAL COMTEMPT

Milwaukee, Wis., April 7.—Federal District Judge Geiger has granted jury trials to locked out employes of the Allen-A Hosiery Company of Kenosha who are charged with contempt of court for violating a labor injunction.

The court based his decision on the Supreme Court's decision in the Michaelson case, in October, 1924, when striking employes of the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha Railway company were granted a jury trial in criminal contempt proceedings.

The Supreme Court ordered a jury trial where the accused does an act "as to constitute also a criminal offense under any statute of the United States or law of any state in which the act is committed." This decision does not apply to the average injunction which denies workers the right to persuade or to appeal to the public—acts which are not violations of statutory law.

The Kenosha company comes under the Federal court because it is chartered in another state.

The cases are the outcome of the lockout of 300 workers last February. Kenosha citizens are aiding the victimized workers and the company has imported detectives and strikebreakers.

INJURY-LAW CHANGES SIGNED BY GOVERNOR

Albany, N. Y., April 7.—Amendments to the compensation law that are beneficial to labor have been signed by Governor Smith. One change extends from one year to two years after a workman has suffered injury the period within which application for compensation can be filed. The State Industrial Board must unanimously favor filing after the first year.

Another amendment makes possible the insurance of marine workers and others engaged in interstate commerce who do not now come under the state compensation system.

The Governor vetoed the barbers' licensing bill that was favored by employers and employed in this calling. This is the second time the state executive has taken such action.

COMMUNISTS ROUTED; SHIPSTEAD INDORSED

St. Paul, Minn., April 7.—Communists in the Farmer-Labor convention failed to defeat an indorsement of Senator Shipstead.

The Communists staged a battle that would bring joy to every reactionary who is also opposed to the sponsor of the anti-injunction bill, now before Congress.

Senator Shipstead was elected on the Farmer-Labor ticket in 1922, defeating Frank B. Kellogg, present Secretary of State, by a plurality of 83,539.

TEACHERS ADVISED TO STAND FOR RIGHT

University, Va., April 7.—"Teachers will be slaves if they act like slaves," said Walter Lippman, chief editorial writer for the New York World, in an address on "American Inquisitors" at the University of Virginia.

The address was a stirring appeal to teachers to own themselves, and can be accepted by citizens in every walk of life.

"It might be argued," said Mr. Lippman, "that the teaching profession could establish its independence if it were better prepared to stand up and fight. I believe that to be true. I believe the great body of educators hardly realize the power they could exercise if they chose not to endure this perpetual bullying from ignoramuses.

"Weakness always tempts the bully. If teachers cower they will be bullied. The tragedy and absurdity of the thing is that they could so easily rally a following if they had the imagination to realize how strong they are. If they chose to say they would not endure the intolerable indignities to which they are subjected they would very soon command a new kind of respect in the nation."

25,000 AUTO DEATHS

Philadelphia, April 7.—Unless some method is found with which to check automobile accidents, approximately 25,000 persons will be killed and 250,000 injured in this state during the next 10 years, Samuel Eckels, of the State Department of Highways, predicted in an address before the State Department of Safety Conference.

"The increase in auto fatalities has been in direct ratio to the increase in motor vehicles," said Mr. Eckels.

Schwab's Pious Pretense To Senators Is Sharply Criticized By Labor Paper

Allentown, Pa., April 7.—A scorching attack on Charles M. Schwab because of the steel magnate's declaration before the Senate coal strike probe committee that he never had a strike in any of his plants, features the last issue of the Pennsylvania Labor Herald.

The labor paper protests against the present-day policy of certain employers who have wronged workers, and who now in "their senile old age," affect a philanthropic attitude.

"Schwab poses before the country as a good employer," says the Labor Herald. "Here, where he is known, his very name is a synonym for hypocrisy, greed and injustice.

"Before the great strike at the Bethlehem Steel Company plant in Bethlehem, which began in February, 1910, and lasted through three bitter winter months, while the steel workers froze and starved and were beaten up and shot by State police, Charles Schwab's company was known far and wide as the meanest employer of labor in the United States.

"That strike was not against existing low wages, or intolerable work conditions or the 12-hour day, but because employes were forced to labor on Sunday.

"Charles M. Schwab, although a resident of Bethlehem and an active manager of the Bethlehem Steel Company at the time, did not raise a hand to help the men. He took not the slightest interest in their living conditions."

The Labor Herald refers to a Congressional report and to a report by the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ on this strike. The company was denounced in both instances.

During the World War the company locked out 28,000 employes because they refused to work 10 hours a day for eight hours' pay. When Congress passed the back pay bill, after an eight-years' fight, the company attempted to claim credit.

The Labor Herald closes its blistering arraignment by expressing the hope that the next time Schwab claims he has served humanity "some practical person will ask this 'Star of Bethlehem' to give an account in detail of the unselfish service he has rendered anywhere to anyone."

MINIMUM WAGE LAWS FOR WOMEN ARE FEW

Washington, April 7.—Nine States—California, Colorado, Massachusetts, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington and Wisconsin—have minimum wage laws for women, says the United States Women's Bureau, in its pamphlet, "State Laws Affecting Working Women."

In Minnesota the attorney general has ruled that the law is unconstitutional as applied to adult women.

Two States—South Dakota and Utah—have set a minimum wage by law in specified industries or occupations. The remaining States—California, Colorado, Massachusetts, North Dakota, Oregon, Washington and Wisconsin—have created boards or commissions with power to study the various occupations or industries and stablish minimum wage rates for each or all of them. This has been done by one or more groups of workers in all the States except Colorado, where, through lack of a sufficient appropriation, the commission has never functioned.

The awards of the boards or commissions are mandatory in all the States except Massachusetts, where they can be enforced only through the strong support of public opinion. The highest wages set in any of these awards are $16 a week for all industries in California.

"Where the rates are set by law they have not responded to the great rise in the cost of living since 1914," the Women's Bureau says. "The rate set by the act of the Utah legislature is $7.50 for experienced women."

EASTERN STATE REJECTS NIGHT WORK FOR WOMEN

Boston, April 7.—Organized labor won a signal victory over low-wage, long-hour textile employers and allies when the House of Representatives rejected a Senate bill that would permit mill night work until 10 o'clock for women and children. The vote was 116 to 90.

Friends of the measure pleaded "Southern competition," but opponents cited the growing opposition to inhuman mill conditions in Southern states. It was shown that longer hours is not the remedy for an industry that all agree is in a deplorable condition, and which is being intensified by speeding-up processes.

CANDY PLANT OWNERS PROMISE TO CLEAN UP

New York, April 7.—Candy manufacturers are panic-stricken over publicity given their filthy plants and have promised to clean up, obey the law and pay a minimum wage of $14 a week.

An investigation by the Consumers' League revealed shocking conditions in many factories. Some of the high-priced goods were included in the indictment and several factories have been closed by the Board of Health.

UNION CAR EMPLOYES ADJUST LONG DISPUTE

Philadelphia, April 7.—An agreement has been reached by the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company and the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employes.

The dispute was of long standing. A company "union" was installed, and the so-called "Mitten management" spread to Buffalo, which experienced a costly strike.

The agreement was made after a several weeks' conference between Thomas E. Mitten and William D. Mahon, president of the Amalgamated.

President Mahon made this announcement:

"We have reached an understanding that all disputes shall be buried and we will cooperate on the basis that will establish better conditions for all interested in the transportation question. We feel that the basis we have outlined will bring to the riding public a perfect, cheap and satisfactory system of transportation that will answer all requirements. Second, we feel it will bring to the management an assured, reliable and permanent business. Third, that it will bring to the employes who follow this occupation better wages, a higher standard of living and, in the end, joint ownership and management of the properties on which we work.

"It is a new step in the industrial undertakings in America, but we feel we understand one another thoroughly and that the spirit of cooperation will develop fully, fairly and honestly. While it will take time and patience to work it out, we have great hopes for the plan."

WORKERS' EDUCATION IS URGED BY GREEN

Washington, April 7.—In a letter to unions, President Green calls attention to this declaration by the last A. F. of L. convention at Los Angeles:

> "The Executive Council of the A. F. of L. is again authorized to appeal to all national and international unions, state federations, central bodies and local unions to undertake active affiliation and support of the Workers' Education Bureau, so that the bureau can be of maximum service to the American labor movement."

"The Workers' Education Bureau is a part of our movement," said President Green. "It is designed to educate our members, and the public as well, along economic, industrial and social lines.

"I urge your organization to carry out the recommendation of the A. F. of L. convention. Affiliation can be arranged through the secretary of the bureau, Mr. Spencer Miller, Jr., 476 West 24th Street, New York City."

CHILD LABOR STATUTE STIFFENED IN NEW YORK

Albany, N. Y., April 7.—Boys under 12 are barred from selling newspapers on streets by a compulsory education bill that has been signed by Governor Smith. The act makes it unlawful to employ a minor under 14 in any business or service. Minors from 14 to 17 are required to receive part-time instruction. Those from 17 to 21 who cannot read and write English are required to take evening instructions.

"No boy under 12," the law reads, "and no girl under 18 shall be engaged in a street trade; and no boy from 12 to 17 shall be so engaged unless a street trades badge has been lawfully issued to him."

EMPLOYERS EVADE STATE-MADE WAGES

Vancouver, British Columbia, April 7.—The 40-cent minimum wage act of this province is violated in the lumbering industry.

Mill owners resort to every subterfuge to lower rates. Workers who live near the mills are assured steady employment if they make the claim to government officials that they are disabled. This permits employers to pay 30 cents an hour.